GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:399
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Target Olympic Podium Scheme
Birla Shri Om;Chaudhary Shri P.P.;Chautala Shri Dushyant;Joshi Shri Chandra Prakash;K. Shri Parasuraman;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Mishra Shri Bhairon Prasad;Patel Shri Devji Mansingram;Shekhawat Shri Gajendra Singh

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to provide financial assistance to the top sports persons of the country from the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) for training as a preparation for Olympics, 2016 under Target Olympic Podium Scheme;
(b) if so, the details of the said Scheme;
(c) the number of sportspersons who have applied for financial assistance under the said scheme along with the action taken by the Government thereon so far;
(d) whether the Government has selected such needy and talented sportspersons;
(e) if so, the details thereof including the training provided/to be provided;
(f) if not, the reasons therefor;
(g) the details of coaches (Indian/ Foreign) appointed by the Government for 2016 Olympics as well as for promotion of sports in rural areas; and
(h) whether the sports persons who have secured qualification to the Rio 2016 Olympics have been left out of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)
(a) & (b): The Ministry has formulated a programme namely "Target Olympic Podium Scheme" (TOP Scheme) within the overall ambit of the National Sports Development Fund with the objective of identifying and supporting potential medal prospects for 2016 and 2020 Olympic Games. The selected athletes are being provided financial assistance for their customized training at Institutes having world class facilities and other necessary support.
(c) to (f): 106 sportspersons have been identified so far by a committee, which was headed by Shri Anurag Thakur, MP and consisting of eminent sportsperson through a process of research and consultation with the National Sports Federations and National Coaches/ Experts of the relevant disciplines. Financial assistance is being provided for customized training and other support after scrutiny of the proposals from them. The list of sportspersons selected under the scheme is given in the statement at Annexure − I. So far, 88 sportspersons have applied for assistance. Assistance of Rs.6.22 crore has been sanctioned / released.
(g): 9 sports disciplines viz. Athletics, Archery, Badminton, Boxing, Hockey, Shooting, Tennis, Weightlifting and Wrestling have been identified for Rio Olympics 2016 and training of sportspersons in these 9 sports disciplines is going on as per details given below:
Sports discipline Indian Coach Foreign Coach
<pre>
Archery 5 1
Athletics 20 6
Badminton 6 5
Boxing 16 10
Hockey 6 2
Shooting 10 5
Tennis Tennis players being professional are on international circuit as per their individual training plans.
Weightlifting 6 -
Wrestling 21 3</pre>
(h): Yes madam, in a few cases for various reasons.
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